

NWS FORM E-5 (11-88) (PRES. BY WSOM E-41)	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE	HYDROLOGIC SERVICE AREA (HSA) WFO Jackson, Mississippi
MONTHLY REPORT OF RIVER AND FLOOD CONDITIONS		REPORT FOR: MONTH YEAR April 2002
TO: Hydrometeorological Information Center, W/OH2 NOAA / National Weather Service 1325 East West Highway, Room 7230 Silver Spring, MD 20910-3283		SIGNATURE Jim Stefkovich, MIC In Charge of HSA DATE May 8th , 2002

When no flooding occurs, include miscellaneous river conditions, such as significant rises, record low stages, ice conditions, snow cover, droughts, and hydrologic products issued (WSOME-41)

The month started out with typical early April weather with mild days and cool nights; however, after the first 10 days of the month, a summer like weather pattern with hot and humid days prevailed over the HSA. Some very light showers were noted over central portions of the HSA around April 5th. Rainfall amounts were less than 1/10 of an inch. From the 11th to the 15th of the month, only scattered, mostly afternoon showers were reported. In areas that did get any rainfall, amounts ranged from 1/4 to 3/4 of an inch. A series of weak frontal systems slowly moved into the area and dissipated, causing some scattered rainfall between the 22nd and 25th. Once again, if rainfall fell over any area, amounts were 1/4 of an inch or less. An upper level disturbance approached the area during the last few days of the month producing rainfall amounts 3/4 of an inch or less. Most of the rainfall was over northern sections of the HSA.

The most significant event occurred between the 8th and 9th of April. An upper level low pressure area moved slowly through the area dumping significant rainfall over central and southern sections of MS and northeast LA. Rainfall amounts for the 24 to 36 hour event ranged from 1 ½ inches in the north to near 4 inches in the south. The highest storm totals for this rainfall event were at Crystal Springs, MS (3.90 inches), Jonesville, LA (3.66 inches), Hazlehurst, MS (3.45 inches), Clayton, LA (3.44 inches), White Oak, MS (3.40 inches) and Brookhaven, MS (3.34 inches). This was a well needed rain event for southern MS.

Much below normal rainfall in April allowed the soil moisture over extreme northeast LA, southeast AR, and north MS to return to near normal. Soil moisture over the upper Big Black river and the extreme upper Pearl river were slightly above normal. Soil conditions were at or just below normal over most of southern MS with exception of southeast portions where below normal soil conditions were noted. The heavy rainfall on April 8th and 9th caused portions of the upper Pearl and lower Pearl, Big Black, Yalobusha, Big Sunflower, and the lower Yazoo rivers to rise above flood stage. See the e-3 Flood Stage Report for river flooding crests.

<u>RIVER BASIN</u>	<u>RAINFALL</u>	<u>DEPARTURE FROM NORMS</u>
Southeast Arkansas (Chicot & Ashley counties)	2.50 to 3.00 inches	Well below normal.
northeast Louisiana (Tensas, Boeuf, Bayou Macon & Lower Ouachita)	3.00 to 4.00 inches	Much below normal.
Lower Yazoo	1.50 to 3.50 inches	Much below normal.
Big Black	2.50 to 3.50 inches (middle to Lower Big Black) 3.00 to 4.75 inches (Upper Big Black)	Much below normal. Slightly below to much below normal.
Homochitto/ Bayou Pierre	3.50 to 4.25 inches	Much below normal.
Pearl (abv Jackson)	2.50 to 4.00 inches	Much below normal.
Pearl (Blo Jackson)	3.00 to 4.5 inches	Much below normal
Pascagoula	2.25 to 4.00 inches	Much below normal

The heaviest rainfall amounts in the HSA for the month were 4.88 inches at Ackerman, MS; 4.36 inches at D'lo, MS; 4.27 inches at Crystal Springs, MS; 4.07 inches at Edinburg, MS; 4.03 inches at Mize, MS; 4.02 inches at Jonesville, LA.

Here at the WFO Jackson, the April monthly rainfall was 2.73 inches, which was 3.25 inches below normal. Ending April 30th, we have had 18.67 inches of thus far this year which is 3.22 inches below normal.

The Mississippi River was well above seasonal norms during the first 2 and half weeks of the month from Arkansas City, AR to Greenville, MS. By months end, the river from Arkansas City, AR to Greenville, MS was just below seasonal norms. The Mississippi River from Vicksburg to Natchez was well above seasonal norms for the first half of the month; however, by the end of the month, the river was just above seasonal norms. The provisional high and low stages for April are listed below:

Location	High Stage(ft)	Date	Low Stage(ft)	Date
Arkansas City, AR	Gage Out		23.80	04/24
Greenville, MS	46.70	04/12	35.98	04/24
Vicksburg, MS	41.73	04/12	32.68	04/26
Natchez, MS	Gage Out		42.07	04/29

Total Flood Warning products issued: 5
Total Flood Statement products issued: 174
Daily Rainfall Products (RRA'S) issued 30
Daily River Forecast Products (RVS'S) issued 30
Daily River Stage products (RVA'S) issued 30

Marty V. Pope
Service Hydrologist

Note: Stage and precipitation data was furnished with cooperation from Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas N.W.S. Cooperative Observers, United States Geological Survey, United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Pearl River Valley Water Supply District.

cc: USGS Little Rock District
USGS Ruston District
USCE Mobile District
USCE Vicksburg District
USCE Mississippi Valley Division
USGS Mississippi District
SRH Climate, Weather and Water Division
LMRFC
Pearl River Valley Water Supply District
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